

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF GUAM**

Terrence M. Brooks, Chairman

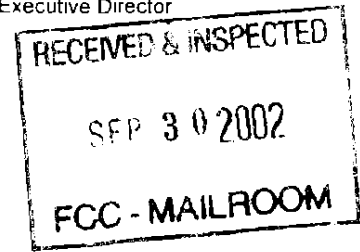
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Executive Director



September 23, 2002

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Room TW-B204  
Washington, DC 20554

Ms. Irene Flannery  
Universal Service Administrative Company  
2120 I Street, N.W., Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20037

**RE: Annual Certification of the Guam Public Utilities Commission  
CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Flannery:

On May 10, 2001, the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") modified its rules for providing high-cost universal service support to rural telephone companies and promulgated a new regulation (47 C.F.R. § 54.314) requiring states to submit an annual certification to both the FCC and Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") for rural incumbent local exchange carriers within their jurisdictions to receive high-cost universal service support.<sup>1</sup> The Guam Public Utilities Commission ("GPUC") hereby submits its annual certification letter to the FCC and USAC to satisfy such requirement.

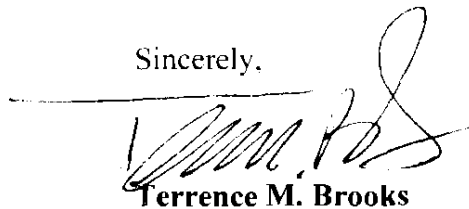
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<sup>1</sup> *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 01-157 (adopted May 10, 2001).

The GPUC is the agency of the government of the Territory of Guam having jurisdiction to regulate the intrastate activities of Guam Telephone Authority ("GTA"), the rural incumbent local exchange carrier in the Territory of Guam.<sup>2</sup> The GPUC hereby identifies GTA as the rural carrier in the Territory of Guam eligible to receive federal high-cost support during the twelve (12)-month period to which this certification applies. The specific federal high-cost support provided is the high-cost loop support mechanism for rural carriers under 47 C.F.R. Part 36, subpart E. The GPUC hereby certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to GTA within the Territory of Guam will be used only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

The GPUC thanks the FCC for its efforts to provide support to rural carriers such as GTA to promote access to affordable, quality telecommunications services in the Territory of Guam. If anything further is required in connection with this annual certification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Terrence M. Brooks

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<sup>2</sup> GTA is a "rural telephone company" within the meaning of 47 C.F.R. § 51.5. Further, the FCC has previously determined that GTA should be treated as an incumbent local exchange carrier pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 251(h)(2). *In the Matter of Treatment of Guam Telephone Authority and Similarly Situated Carriers as Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers under Section 251(h)(2) of the Communications Act*, CC Docket No. 97-134, Report and Order, FCC 98-163 (released July 20, 1998).